

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1-5 and 20-38 without prejudice or disclaimer and AMEND claims 6, 12 AND 161 in accordance with the following:

1-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A protective layer for protecting a part against corrosion and oxidation at high temperatures, comprising a MCrAlY alloy having a predominantly  $\gamma$ -phase in an outer portion thereof, wherein M represents approximately 24% to 26% cobalt by weight and at least one of Fe and Ni, and Y represents at least one of yttrium and at least one equivalent element selected from the group consisting of scandium and rare earths wherein the MCrAlY alloy contains 0.5% by weight to 2% by weight rhenium.

7. (original) The protective layer of claim 6, wherein the MCrAlY alloy protective layer comprises:

an inner MCrAlY alloy layer which faces the part; and  
an outer MCrAlY alloy layer, the outer MCrAlY alloy layer being the outer portion of the protective layer having the predominantly  $\gamma$ -phase.

8. (original) The protective layer of claim 7, wherein:  
the outer MCrAlY alloy layer is a free surface portion of the inner MCrAlY alloy layer, and  
the free surface portion is a layer re-melted by at least one of electron beams and ion beams.

9. (original) The protective layer of claim 7, wherein the outer MCrAlY alloy layer is an electrodeposited MCrAlY alloy predominately in the  $\gamma$ -phase.

10. (original) The protective layer of claim 6, wherein the MCrAlY alloy includes zirconium.

11. (original) The protective layer of claim 6, wherein the MCrAlY alloy includes alloying constituents essentially consisting of:

15% to 35% chromium by weight,  
7% to 18% aluminum by weight,  
0% to 20% rhenium by weight, and  
24% to 26% cobalt by weight.

12. (currently amended) The protective layer of claim 11, wherein:  
the chromium content is 15% to 21% by weight,  
the aluminum content is 9% to 11.5% by weight, and  
~~the rhenium content is 0.5% to 2% by weight, and~~  
a content of the at least one of yttrium and at least one equivalent element selected from the group consisting of scandium and rare earths is 0.05% to 0.7% by weight.

13. (original) The protective layer of claim 12, wherein:  
the chromium content is 17% by weight,  
the aluminum content is 10% by weight,  
the rhenium content is 1.5% by weight, and  
the content of the at least one of yttrium and at least one equivalent element selected from the group consisting of scandium and rare earths is 0.3% by weight.

14. (original) The protective layer of claim 6, wherein the part is a component for a gas turbine.

15. (original) The protective layer of claim 6, wherein the outer portion of the protective layer is almost entirely in the  $\gamma$ -phase.

16. (currently amended) A protective layer for protecting a component against corrosion and oxidation at high temperatures, essentially consisting of:

15% to 21% by weight of chromium;  
9% to 11.5% by weight of aluminum;  
0% to 2 % by weight of rhenium;  
24% to 26% by weight of cobalt;

0.05% to 0.7% by weight of an element selected from the group consisting of yttrium, scandium and rare earths;

~~0% to 1%~~ 0.5% to 2% by weight of ruthenium;

a remainder being nickel; and

production-related impurities.

17. (original) The protective layer of claim 16, wherein:

the chromium content is 17% by weight,

the aluminum content is 10% by weight,

the rhenium content is 1.5% by weight, and

a content of the element selected from the group consisting of yttrium, scandium and rare earths is 0.3% by weight, it being possible for the contents listed to fluctuate in a manner customary in industrial production.

18. (original) The protective layer of claim 16, wherein the protective layer contains so few chromium-rhenium precipitations that there is no significant embrittlement of the protective layer.

19. (original) The protective layer of claim 18, wherein a volume of the chromium-rhenium precipitations is at most 6% by volume.

20-38. (cancelled)